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## Attorneys for SLF Fire Victim Claimants

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

<p>In re</p> <p>PG&amp;E CORPORATION,</p> <p>and</p> <p>PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Debtors</p> <hr/> <p>Affects:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PG&amp;E Corporation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Gas &amp; Electric Company</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both Debtors</p> <p>* All papers shall be filed in the Lead Case, No. 19-30088 (DM).</p>	<p>) Case No. 19-30088 (DM)</p> <p>)</p> <p>) Chapter 11</p> <p>)</p> <p>) (Lead Case–Jointly Administered)</p> <p>)</p> <p>) <b>LIMITED OBJECTION BY SLF FIRE</b></p> <p>) <b>VICTIM CLAIMANTS TO DEBTORS'</b></p> <p>) <b>MOTION FOR ENTRY OF ORDER</b></p> <p>) <b>EXTENDING TIME TO ASSUME OR</b></p> <p>) <b>REJECT UNEXPIRED LEASES OF</b></p> <p>) <b>NONRESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY</b></p> <p>) <b>[ECF 1805]</b></p> <p>)</p> <p>) Date: May 22, 2019</p> <p>) Time: 9:30 a.m. (Pacific)</p> <p>) Place: United States Bankruptcy Court</p> <p>)              Courtroom 17, 16th Floor</p> <p>)              San Francisco, CA 94102</p> <p>)              Hon. Dennis Montali</p> <p>)</p> <p>) Opposition Deadline: May 15, 2019, 4 p.m. (PDT)</p>
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1           On January 29, 2019, PG&E Corporation and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (collectively,  
2 “PG&E”) filed for bankruptcy. PG&E’s stated reason for seeking bankruptcy protection was that it  
3 was facing \$30 billion in damages from the 2015 Butte Fire, the 2017 North Bay Fires (18 fires in 10  
4 Northern California counties) and the 2018 Camp Fire.<sup>1</sup> Together these fires burned nearly 500,000  
5 acres, killed over 100 people, destroyed almost 20,000 homes, and left tens of thousands of people  
6 homeless.

7           The Singleton Law Firm Fire Victim Claimants (“SLF Claimants”) consist of over 4,700  
8 individuals who suffered injuries and damages in the fires started by PG&E and who are represented  
9 by the Singleton Law Firm, APC.<sup>2</sup> The SLF Claimants have victims from each of the three major  
10 fires/fire complexes involved in the bankruptcy: the 2015 Butte Fire (coordinated in Sacramento  
11 Superior Court under JCCP Number 4853), the 2017 North Bay Fires (coordinated in San Francisco  
12 Superior Court under JCCP Number 4955), and the 2018 Camp Fire (which had not been coordinated  
13 or consolidated at the time PG&E filed for bankruptcy). With respect to the 2017 North Bay Fires,  
14 SLF Claimants sustained damages in each of the 18 major fires. Accordingly, the SLF Claimants  
15 comprise a more complete representative group of fire victims than any other group.

16           On May 1, 2019, PG&E filed its motion requesting that the Court extend the deadline by  
17 which PG&E may assume or reject leases of nonresidential real property (“Lease Extension Motion)  
18 [ECF 1805] pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 365(d)(4) and Bankruptcy Local Rule 6006-1 from the current  
19 deadline of May 29, 2019 to and including August 27, 2019.

20           The SLF Claimants understand the scope and complexity of PG&E’s Chapter 11 cases, and  
21 realize that it will take time for the cases to reach resolution. But the SLF Claimants submit that the  
22 following facts bear strongly on PG&E’s current request for an extension of the deadline to assume or  
23 reject unexpired leases of nonresidential real property.

24  
25           <sup>1</sup> “PG&E to file for Bankruptcy as Wildfire Costs hit \$30 billion”, *Los Angeles Times*, July 14, 2019,  
26 <https://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-pge-bankruptcy-filing-20190114-story.html>.

27           <sup>2</sup> While there are other firms involved in the representation of the SLF Claimants, because each fire has a different  
28 group of firms involved, this group is referred to as the “SLF Claimants” for ease of reference.

1 PGE has stated repeatedly throughout these bankruptcy cases that one of the main purposes in  
2 its filing for bankruptcy relief was to resolve the wildfire claims as expeditiously as possible.

3 At the initial 341(a) meeting of creditors held March 4, 2019, Jason Wells, Chief Financial  
4 Officer of PG&E Corporation, testified as follows:

5 We believe that the provisions of the bankruptcy process allow for a more  
6 expeditious resolution of these [wildfire] claims. When we evaluated the  
7 different ways to provide relief and to address the claims the company  
8 faced, we evaluated doing so through the state court process, which as you  
9 know would—could be an ad hoc process that could extend over a number  
of years. The bankruptcy court process allows us to establish a fair bar  
date, to estimate the value of these claims, and to work more expeditiously  
to resolution. And so in part the filing for bankruptcy was guided by the  
desire to bring resolution as timely as possible.

10 See the transcript attached as Exhibit "A" hereto, p. 45, ll. 2–14.

11 At the continued 341(a) meeting of creditors held April 29, 2019, PG&E's Chief Financial  
12 Officer, Jason Wells, testified that prior to filing bankruptcy, PG&E estimated that resolving the  
13 wildfire claims in state court would take between three and five years—meaning that bankruptcy  
14 would allow PG&E to resolve the claims in less than three years.

15 The vast majority of the fire victims have not been compensated and are still living in very  
16 difficult circumstances. Many are in temporary housing. A significant number are homeless. Some  
17 victims have been waiting for three-and-one half years to get the compensation they need to rebuild  
18 their lives—and now with the bankruptcy, they must wait even longer.

19 The SLF Claimants request that the Court consider the above facts when setting the deadline to  
20 assume or reject unexpired leases of nonresidential real property currently requested by PG&E. It is  
21 imperative that these cases progress as quickly as possible, so that the suffering of the fire victims can  
22 come to an end.

23 Dated: May 7, 2019

SULLIVAN HILL REZ & ENGEL  
A Professional Law Corporation

25 By: /s/ Christopher V. Hawkins

26 James P. Hill

27 Christopher V. Hawkins

28 Attorneys for the Singleton Law Firm

Fire Victim Claimants

**EXHIBIT “A”**

1                   AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION  
2                   ---oOo---  
3                   NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
4                   SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION  
5                   MARCH 4, 2019  
6                   SECTION 341 MEETING OF CREDITORS  
7                   IN THE MATTER OF  
8                   PG&E CORPORATION  
9                   BANKRUPTCY CASE NO. 19-30088  
10                  AND  
11                  PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY  
12                  BANKRUPTCY CASE NO. 19-30089

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21 Transcribed by:

22  
23 Diana Sasseen  
24 CSR No. 13456  
25

1 APPEARANCES  
2 TIMOTHY S. LAFFREDI, Assistant U.S. Trustee  
3  
4 For the Debtors:  
5 STEPHEN KAROTKIN, Weil, Gotshal & Manges  
6 TOBIAS KELLER, Keller & Benvenutti  
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## 10 EXAMINATION

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1       A. Well, let me also extend my deepest sympathies.  
2           We believe that the provisions of the  
3 bankruptcy process allow for a more expeditious  
4 resolution of these claims. When we evaluated the  
5 different ways to provide relief and to address the  
6 claims the company faced, we evaluated doing so through  
7 the state court process, which as you know would --  
8 could be an ad hoc process that could extend over a  
9 number of years. The bankruptcy court process allows us  
10 to establish a fair bar date, to estimate the value of  
11 these claims, and to work more expeditiously to  
12 resolution. And so in part the filing for bankruptcy  
13 was guided by the desire to bring resolution as timely  
14 as possible.

15      Q. I appreciate the interest in the need for  
16 speed, but my question's a little bit different; and  
17 that is that you have a system designed for financial  
18 losses, but you have massive and ongoing human suffering  
19 here. And how is that going to play in your thinking  
20 about reorganizing? I mean, is that a factor for you  
21 all, or how much of a factor will that be?

22      A. It is absolutely a factor. We understand that  
23 we've lost the trust of the community that we serve,  
24 that the human toll that these fires have created are --  
25 can't be expressed in words. We need to make the

1                   REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2                   I, the undersigned, a Certified Shorthand  
3 Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify:

4                   That the foregoing electronically-recorded  
5 proceedings were transcribed by me to the best of my  
6 ability.

7                   I further certify I am neither financially  
8 interested in the action nor a relative or employee of  
9 any attorney or party to this action.

10                  IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have this date  
11 subscribed my name.

12  
13 Dated: April 16, 2019

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Diana Sasseen  
CSR No. 13456

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